

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

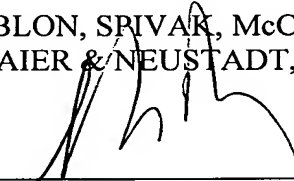
Favorable reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Applicants herein elect claims 6 and 16 in response to the election requirement of paragraph 5 of the Office Action. Claims 1, 2 and 7-12 have therefore been cancelled, and claims 3-5 and 13-15 amended to depend from claims 6 and 16, respectively.

The present application is therefore believed to be in a condition for allowance, and an early Notice of Allowability is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Bradley D. Lytle
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 40,073

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000

Fax: (703) 413 -2220

(OSMMN 06/04)

Robert T. Pous
Registration No. 29,099

I:\RTP\245993\245993.AM